



My husband and I live on 3 acres with natural woodland, three ponds and a creek. We get a lot of wildlife coming through—bears, opossums, chipmunks, foxes and lots of birds. I do whatever I can to make them feel welcome. We've got native plants for food and cover. We don't use pesticides. I keep the bird feeders full. And everyone has clean water to drink year-round.

On my back deck, I've created a bird studio with a birdbath and feeders hanging from a large potted ficus tree. I spread a homemade suet-type mixture into a feeder that my husband made by drilling holes in a log. It hangs from a hook and attracts all kinds of birds. It's what the male downy and red-bellied woodpeckers are clinging to in this picture.

My daughter recently wrote in a Mother's Day card, "Mom, everybody says I look like my dad. But my love for nature comes from you." I thought, this is exactly what I want out of life, to pass along one of my greatest loves.

— JANET FURLONG, CULPEPER, VIRGINIA

SUBMIT YOUR SHOT

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